Treatment of AIDS patients

916. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that data collected by the Indian Council of Medical Research has shown a progressive increase over the past three years in the HIV Sero positivity rate and the number of Seropositivity persons detected in India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome is a fatal illness caused by HIV and the number of AIDS patients in the next five years will rise to 60,000 according to WHO and Madras and Bombay will be the worst hit cities;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken for the hospitalisation and tretament of the AIDS patients in the country;

(d) what steps are being taken for training the Hospital Care Staff from immunisation from this fatal infectious disease; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that the ICMR Expert Group have made certain recommendations for formulation and implementation of appropriate policy for providing health care to infected individuals, if so, what steps are being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Over the years the sero-surveillance activities have been expanded to cover the entire country. Large number of people belonging to the high risk groups are being screened every year. Through the data suggests that there has been an increase in seropositivity, this is really an apparent increase. The data is still unstable and it may be premature to draw conclusions regarding rise of seropositivity.

(b) Yes, AIDS is a fatal disease, caused by HIV virus. So far only 48 full blown AIDS cases have been detected all over the country. The projection that the number of AIDS cases in India will rise to 60,000 in the next five years, has been made by an official of the W.H.O. in a letter addressed to I.C.M.R. The basis of which the projection has been made is being ascertained.

(c) and (d) Only full blown AIDS cases require hospitalisation.

Not all HIV infected persons require indoor treatment. The patients come to out-door with vague complaints, for which symptomatic treatment is being given at thirteen identified institutions/hospitals in the country. Training courses have been/are being conducted for training of medical, paramedical and laboratory staff of 13 identified medical colleges/hispitals.

(e) Yes. On the recommendations of ICMR Expert Group, an infection control committee has been made functional in four designated hospitals in metropolitan cities. Training courses have been/are being organised for training of medical, paramedical and laboratory staff.

Guidelines on procedures, handling and disposal of dead-bodies/post-mortem/embalming have been circulated to all States/medical colleges and hospitals for strict adherence.

Treatment of AIDS patients at AIIMS

917. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) what is the number of patients suffering from AIDS in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are no proper treatment facilities for AIDS patients in the AIIMS, New Delhi;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the doctors and nurses of AIIMS are reluctant to handle AIDS patients; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure that such patients receive prompt treatment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Only one person has developed clinical symptoms of AIDS in Delhi.